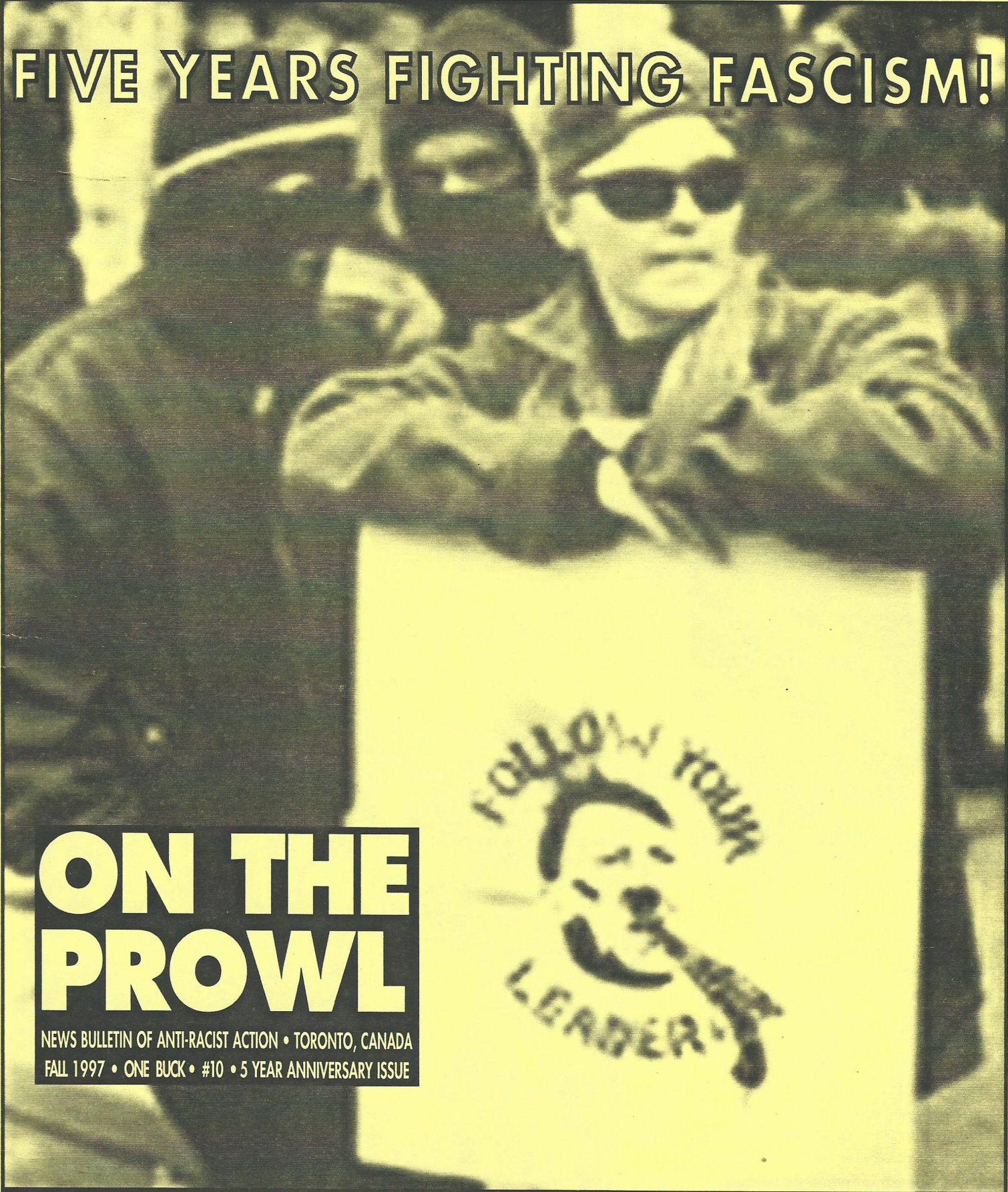




FIVE YEARS FIGHTING FASCISM!

ON THE PROWL

NEWS BULLETIN OF ANTI-RACIST ACTION • TORONTO, CANADA
FALL 1997 • ONE BUCK • #10 • 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

24 PAGES OF ANTI-FASCIST RESOURCES, ANALYSIS AND MEMORIES! Includes picture history of ARA Toronto
the nature of the nazi beast • brains behind the balaklava • punks & skinheads • serious thoughts on race and class
First Nations solidarity • police killings in Toronto • criminalization of anti-racist & animal rights activists
Rock Against Racism • anti-Semitism in Canada from the 30s to the 90s • refugees on hungerstrike

As it happened:

First ARA actions

ARA started spontaneously in the summer of 1992, in and around the Kensington Market area of Toronto. Anti-fascist youth had been resisting neo-nazi boneheads at local pubs, who were trying to intimidate the punk and skin-head crowd.

Youth were also concerned about the Heritage Front, a white supremacist organization which began in 1989. The Front had been leafletting schools, attacking Black History Month and other anti-racist initiatives.



Demo at Café Roma, November 1992

In September, it was rumoured that the Front was planning to march on the University Avenue courthouse. ARA, as a group, was born as the punks quickly pulled together a counter demonstration, totally freaking the nazis out. But the Front was clearly on the rise, getting uncritical and even sympathetic media coverage as a "white rights" group who simply wanted to celebrate European heritage, or at worse "white separatists" who just wanted a "white homeland".

CASNP, the Canadian Alliance in Solidarity with Native Peoples, was the first group to demonstrate specifically

against the Heritage Front. A local group called Klanbusters also began organizing out of the Native Canadian Centre. With these allies, ARA's first direct action against the fash was made possible in November 1992. Information was obtained about a "secret" Heritage Front meeting and white power "music" bash planned to welcome UK holocaust-denier David Irving to Canada. 250 anti-racists surprised the fash at Café Roma on Bloor West, pelting the building with eggs. As the boneheads ran for cover they were followed and treated to a taste of anti-fascist revenge. (Irving never did make it past Immigration.)

November and December found us organizing three more demonstrations, including a march up Church Street through Toronto's gay neighbourhood, protesting the Montreal bonehead murders of gay men.

Courthouse mayhem

ARA's largest demonstration ever was held on January 25, 1993. Klanbusters and other groups were taking the Front to the Canadian Human Rights Commission court over their hate-line, where they regularly spewed a soft-sell fascism. That gave the Front another opportunity to demonstrate, by openly marching on the courthouse across City Hall Square. But ARA was up even earlier that cold morning. Over 500 people gathered at Queen's Park and marched down University to the Courthouse.

We had partially blocked one entrance out of six to the building, but it happened to be the entrance the Heritage Front wanted to use. The police were there to

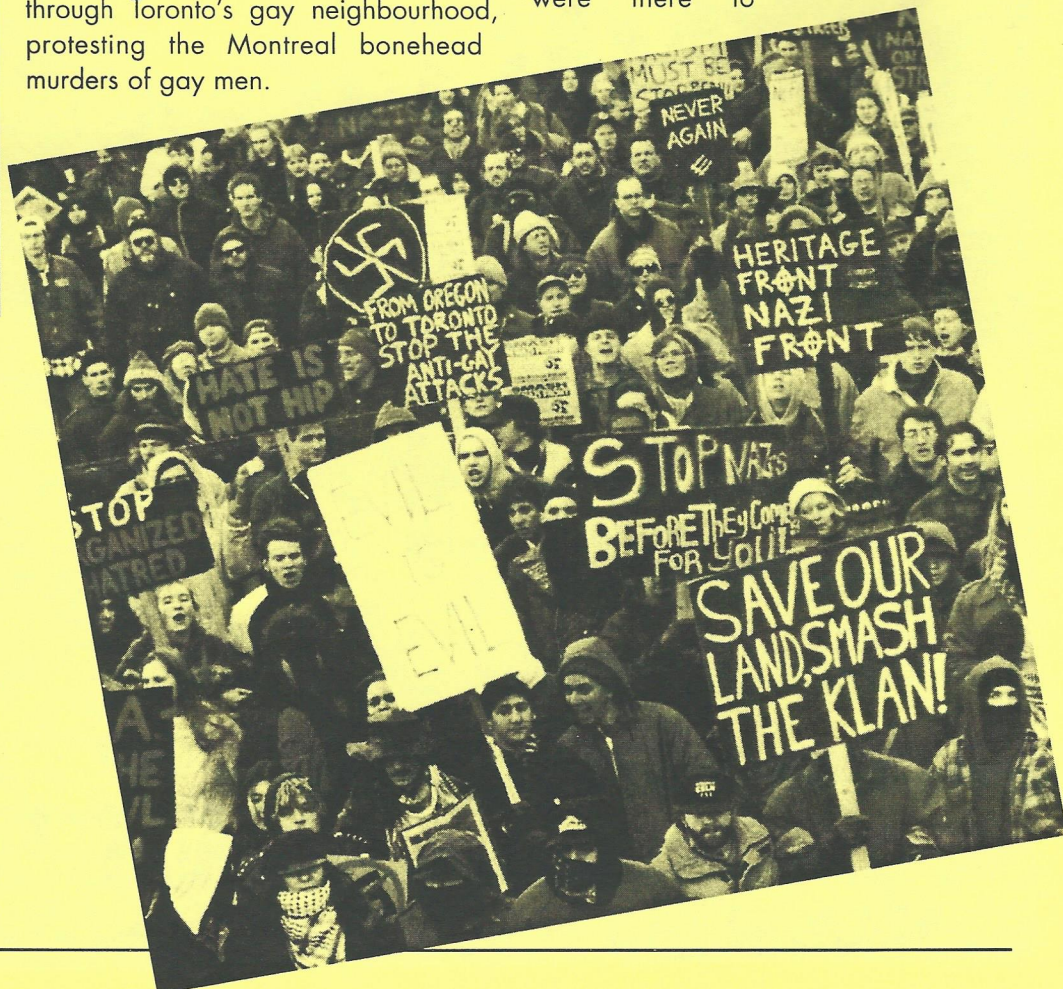


Photo history of Anti-Racist Action (Toronto)



oblige them. As we stood chanting, seven mounted cops charged our front line to clear a way for the fash and their police escort. Anti-racists stood strong even under swinging batons, chanting "Cops and Klan Go Hand in Hand!"

Later on the news, the police force had to make it clear that they weren't (really!) supporting the HF! But by the next day, the media machine swung into action, and we were all suddenly "terrorists" who had provoked the horses, or thrown rocks. You know, whatever story to suit the discredited police.



But we stayed on the streets. Next, we turned our attention to Paul Fromm, a high school teacher and long-time anti-immigration organizer who was under review by the Ministry of Education. We marched to the Ministry to demand that this suit-and-tie nazi be fired. Notably, some Ministry employees came out in support and told us there was a committed white supremacist high up in the Ministry's ranks.

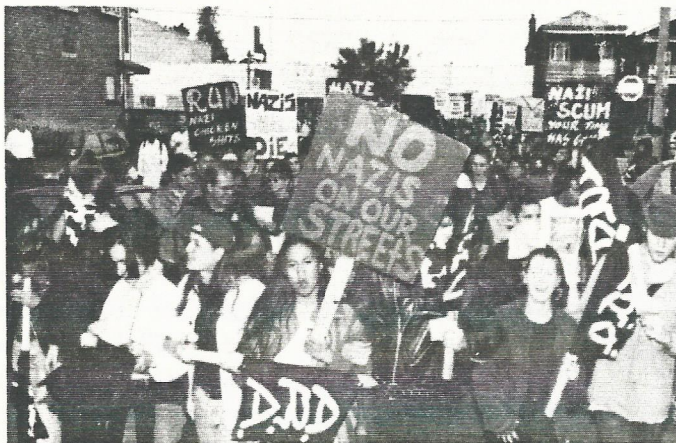
Getting proactive

Toronto's most militant ARA demo took place on June 11, 1993, after a series of increasingly bold and vicious Heritage Front attacks, including a near-fatal beating of a Tamil refugee following a white power concert. Demo flyers had hinted that we would be protesting at the bunker of Ernst Zundel, infamous Holocaust-denier and nazi. The fash and the cops were waiting for us there. But instead, we marched on the home of Gary Schipper, the "voice" of the Heritage Front hateline.

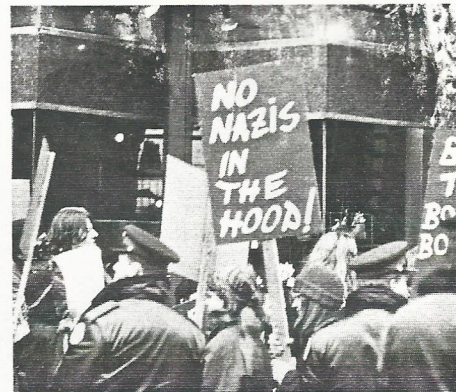
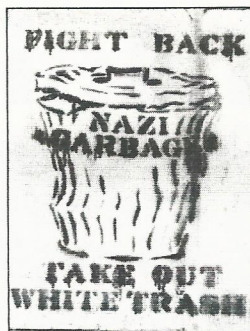


(Left & above) January 25, 1993. Protestors are clearly standing behind the line of bricks on the ground, as police advance and attack the demonstration, injuring several people.

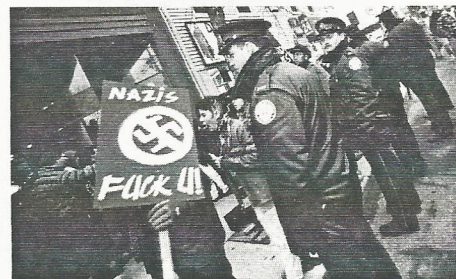
During the demonstration, a masked group rushed the house, smashing windows, while paint, shit and eggs were hurled from the crowd. This redecoration was a critical moment in the destruction of the credibility of the Front (both to its



Schipper demo, June 11, 1993



Picket at Queen St. IXL, December 1994



friends and to the public). Later that evening, a group of 30-40 boneheads came looking for revenge to the Kensington Market area. But they screwed up their counterattack, resulting in injuries and arrests on their side.

This demo was a turning point for us, marking a transition from simply reacting to neo-nazi events, to taking the anti-racist struggle to their faces.

Anti-fascist street art

We also began to concentrate on anti-fascist street art, which can be intimidating to the fash without mass organizing. Knowing, by this time, where the boneheads live and work, helped us to target those areas for the anti-racist message.

Antifa art has been an essential tool especially against Ernst Zundel. After several years of exposing him in the Cabbagetown neighbourhood where he lives, Zundel is now rarely seen on the street or at any local businesses. Most recently, we held an all-day picket outside his bunker during the Metro Days of Action against the Harris government (in October 1996). We entertained his neighbours and made many friends with our free kosher barbecue, our anti-racist soundtrack, and street theatre.



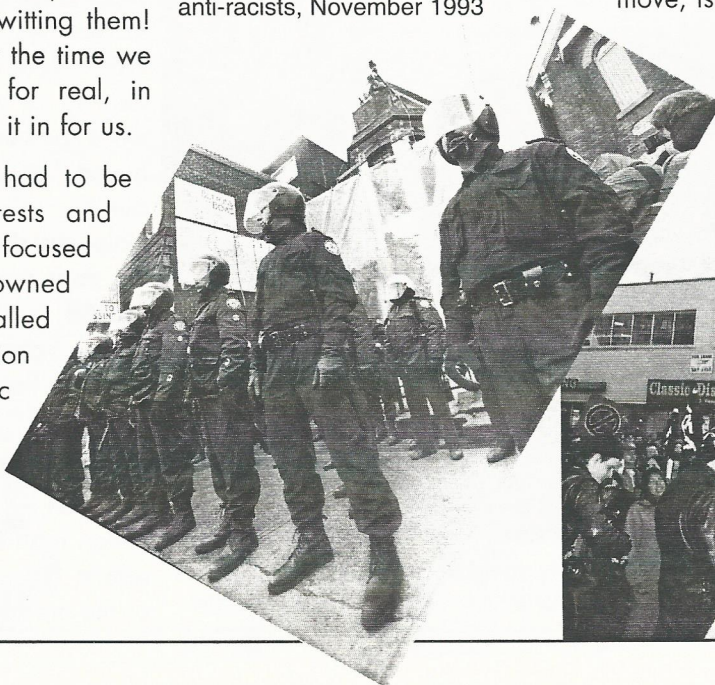
The ongoing battle

Since 1994, the fash have been less inclined to plan public events in downtown Toronto... they know we're on the prowl! On Hitler's birthday in April, the fash usually try to do some kind of stupid celebration. Twice we've thwarted their plans, without even having detailed information to go on. We have learned that bringing the anti-racist forces together, ready to move, is a deterrent to the fash.

By now, however, the cops were totally pissed at us for outwitting them! (Not too difficult...) So by the time we went to Zundel's bunker for real, in November 1993, they had it in for us.

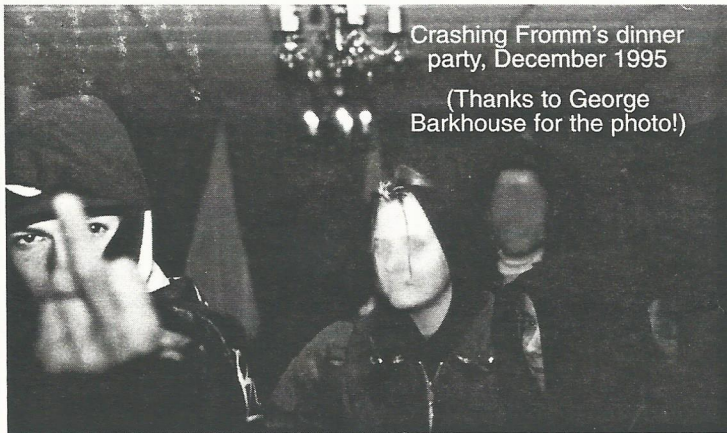
Police protect Zundel from anti-racists, November 1993

Our next few demos had to be pretty tight to avoid arrests and provocation by cops. We focused on a pair of neo-nazi-owned clothing/record stores called IXL. Through a combination of street theatre, public education, pickets and demonstrations, we eventually forced them out of business.



Demo against Hitler's Birthday at Yonge Street IXL, April 1995





Paul Fromm knows well what can happen to fascist gatherings in downtown Toronto. In December 1995, it took only 30 antifa youth to ruin the Christmas dinner he had planned at a Bloor Street restaurant for his anti-immigrant following.

Because the nazis have been moving their organizing out of Toronto and into smaller communities, we've been helping ARAs get started wherever the bones show up. To bring anti-racists from our region together, we held our first Youth Against Hate conference in June 1996. The conference gave us a new type of credibility in the broader community that the nazis REALLY hate to see us have. Our regional organizing



Free Mumia demo at the US consulate, summer 1995

has also contributed to the staggering growth of the ARA Network across North America. Where there were only three groups in 1994, there are 80 and counting today.

Locally, we have taken advantage of the decline in fascist organizing to expand our scope of work. We have worked towards creating space for youth energy and militancy in broader campaigns – like the Metro Days of Action against



March against police terror, September 1995

Mike Harris in October 1996. Along with our Zundel picket (described previously), we also marched with thousands of labour and community activists in a "Black Bloc" that raised eyebrows and made headlines too!

Our most consistent solidarity work has been against racist policing. In the summer of 1995, ARA joined the worldwide protest against the planned execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal, an African-American political journalist framed for killing a cop. The struggle for Mumia's life continues today.

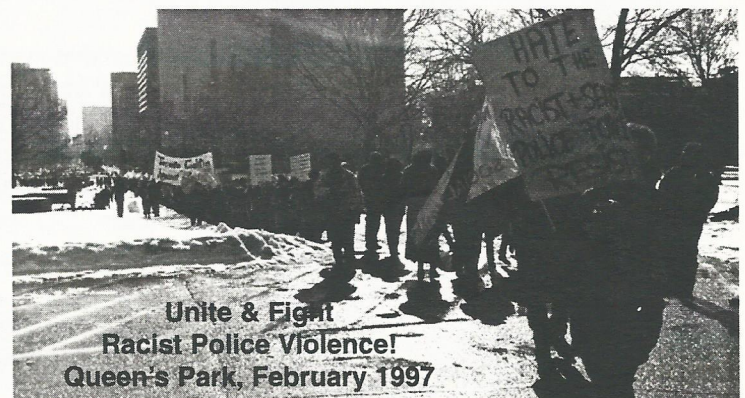
In September 1995, Dudley George of the Stoney Point First Nation was killed by the Ontario Provincial Police while defending his people's territory. Meanwhile, the RCMP were attacking Sundancers in Gustafsen Lake, B.C., and Metro Toronto police were waging war against residents of Regent Park. ARA and other community groups joined forces to march against police terror.

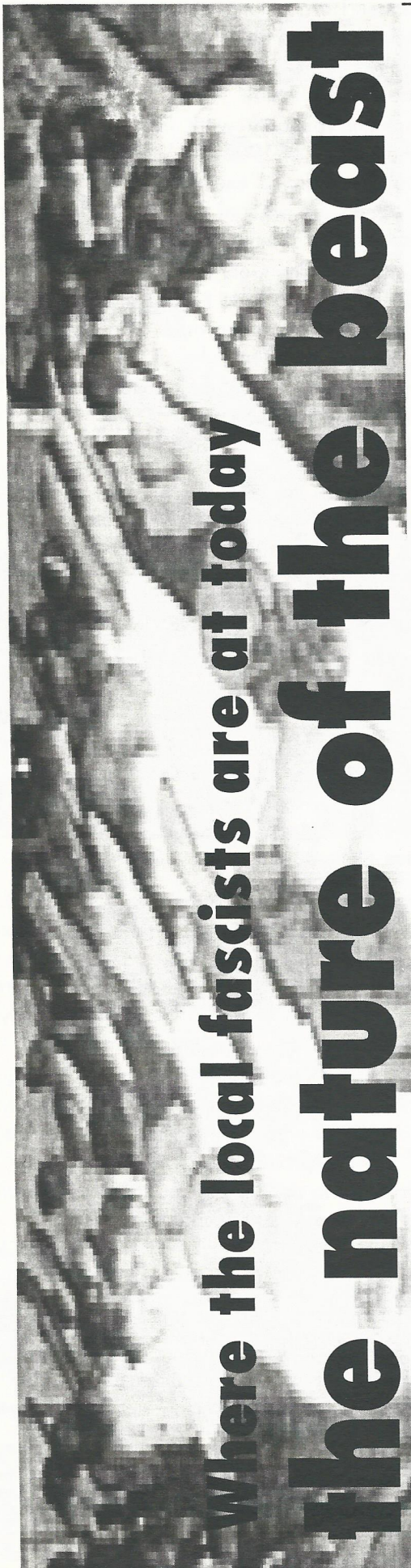


The Black Bloc, Metro Days of Action, October 1996

We have continued to build solidarity with Stoney Point, while we contribute to a new initiative in communities of colour against racist police violence. In coalition with other groups, we plan demonstrations and press conferences, and support families and friends of victims of police shootings, as they attend the court hearings and mark the anniversaries.

There are few victories in the fight against racist policing. But the strength of the women and men we meet is truly inspiring, and has taught us a lot about commitment, dedication and courage. We are proud of what we have accomplished, and look forward to applying these lessons to all our anti-racist and anti-fascist work in the future. ●





Where the local fascists are at today the nature of the beast

Canada's one-time leading neo-nazi organization, the Heritage Front, doesn't make much news these days. The days when we saw the Front marching on the streets, holding public meetings with over 200 supporters, publishing a regular magazine, and making constant TV appearances, are gone. Their role as a front organization uniting different shades of fascistic outfits took a decisive beating over the years from antifas.

But the threat of organized racism and fascism sure isn't gone for good! The present social conditions like unemployment, poverty and rising intolerance, provide a good social base for the fash to organize in.

Luckily, local fascists lack a credible leadership – particularly among nazi youth, who don't trust anyone outside their own small circles. The Heritage Front is encouraging its followers to lie low and to buy a house in the country, preferably with its own water supply. Holocaust-denier and nazi propagandist Ernst Zundel has been too occupied in the courts and in slandering anti-racists to host any big events. Long-time far-right freak, Paul Fromm, is travelling the country to rally the troops, fishing for a new formula, and is emerging as a leading figure on the national level. But in Toronto he's keeping his head down since losing his teaching job because of his fascist activities.

Nowadays, the nature of the fash in our region is to look for places where there is indifference to nazi organizing. There was a conscious decision by nazi ideologues to give up multi-cultural and diverse cities like Toronto and move into small "white" enclaves around southern Ontario. Their best bet was to count on the day-to-day racism of people in small towns.

So part of the challenge for antifas is to deny any legitimacy for Heritage Front and Fromm followers, as well as to do the necessary pro-active organizing in smaller towns. This involves encouraging antifa scenes among the youth with creativity and an edge of militancy to deal with the fash when they show their ugly mugs in their towns.

Young anti-fascists are meeting the challenge and organizing groups in many smaller cities and towns in our area: the Niagara region, Kitchener-Waterloo, London, Sarnia – with more on the way. Our experience so far is that when faced with resistance, the fash usually move on to places where they feel more comfortable. Sometimes they have come out and tried their strong hand. In a few cases when antifa youth have taken them on, face-to-face, they have pushed the nazis to the gutter, destroying their "tough guys you don't want to mess with" image.

Having said that, dealing decisive blows to the overall fascist youth scene is difficult because they don't have a visible leadership. Their main organizing vehicle is the white power music industry. Racist rock companies like Resistance (based in Detroit, Michigan, but run by Canadian George Burdi) churn out wretched white power albums and print material designed to pump up nazi youth for violence, with a bit of "anti-establishment" posér politics on the side.

So exposing and confronting any event or store connected to the white-power music scene is a key for our anti-fascist work today. That will be the best way for us to deny the fash the social space where they freely roam around, pumping each other up and networking among themselves.

In Toronto, ARA's continuous presence has helped to increase awareness among the youth and there is plenty of autonomous resistance to the fash. We have broken the pattern of lying back when we don't see the enemy activity on a day-to-day basis, and we won't allow them to take us by surprise. We are sending a message to the nazis that this time around, they won't be able to count on our vigilance to wane so they can start the cycle again. Anti-fascists have accumulated experience and knowledge to deal with them, and we will continue to build on it.

But organized anti-fascist groups can't handle every outbreak of the fluid nazi presence. Beating them ideologically and physically wherever they show up is the key at this stage. We should be happy that there is plenty of "low intensity" resistance to nazi youth, especially among the various youth scenes and subcultures. ●

ARA (Toronto) is focused on organizing against neo-Nazis, but we have always understood that racism is a lot bigger than the fascists we confront.

We've worked with many community activists, and also had the chance to learn from anti-fascists in other cities and countries. Through common work and dialogue (and sometimes bitter disagreements), we have tried to figure out some the key features of antifa work.

Understanding the strengths, weaknesses and internal contradictions helps us to better understand the relationships between ANTI-FASCISM and ANTI-RACISM.

- Antifa work is usually REACTIVE. People often get involved in antifa work to deal with an immediate problem, and drop it when the problem is "gone."

- Anti-fascism can be EMPOWERING because you have a concrete target. You can stop a nazi march, fuck up a white power concert, or close down a nazi-owned store.

When you organize against systemic racism, on the other hand, it is harder to identify specific targets or to achieve decisive victories – because the system is so resistant to change.

- In antifa work, there's an easily recognizable space for MILITANCY and for direct action. You have some room to experiment with tactics because, hey, everyone hates nazis. So questions around "violence" and breaking the law are very close to the surface (though those questions will arise in any political struggle).

Also, anti-fascists value a "tough" image, to counter nazis' efforts to intimidate. But sometimes, by putting out that tough image and using strong language and symbols (like the crossed-out swastika), we intimidate the very people we are acting in solidarity with!

- Nazis have many enemies! ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE ARE ATTRACTED TO ANTI-FASCIST WORK.

White people, for example, may get involved because they're leftists and want to challenge the Right. Or they may want to isolate what they see as the "bad apples" in their own scene. Many white people also get involved to defend themselves – as Jews, or queers, or people with disabilities, or feminists... Sometimes

people of colour don't appreciate that white people can be fighting fascists on their own behalf.

But white anti-fascists don't necessarily care much about challenging systemic racism – and understandably, people of colour may choose to keep their distance.

In our core anti-fascist work, we have tried to learn and practice anti-racist principles. We have seen how people of colour involved in the group have been alternatively ignored or blamed when political disagreements arise with other activists. We have seen people of colour arrested by police all out of proportion to their numbers at our demonstrations.

Anti-fascists need to consistently support people of colour working in the anti-fascist movement – whether or not we have the opportunity to get involved in campaigns against systemic racism. And white antifas especially need to remember that in a multicultural city like Toronto, Black and Brown folks will be involved in every social movement, and are going to demand the support they deserve!

rallies to show our fury. We have also been building solidarity with the people of Stoney Point.

ARA has contributed more to this Coalition. With the fash less active we have more time, and we also have learned to make more time within the group to discuss the issues. We have our

own experiences of confronting police in our anti-fascist organizing. Also, many of our folks, and our close supporters, are forced to deal with the cops in our everyday lives – whether we're squeegeeing, or fighting evictions, or getting busted for this or that petty infraction of the law.

While we have gotten great support from people in these Coalitions, we have sometimes gotten criticism too. To give one important example: TCAR formed right after our demo at Gary Schipper's house (page 3), where anti-fascists broke not only windows but a lot of expectations about what activists can or should do in Toronto. And some TCAR folks feared that our militancy would cause a backlash against Black and Brown people.

Working in solidarity

In Toronto, we have contributed to broader anti-racist campaigns mainly through two important Coalitions.

The Toronto Coalition Against Racism (TCAR) formed in June 1993 to organize mass demonstrations by people of colour against racist attacks. As the threat of street violence seemed to drop, TCAR focused on campaigns against racist immigration policies. ARA worked within TCAR for almost two years. But the ARA reps never did a very good job of bringing those political struggles back to ARA, and as a result many ARA people never felt connected to TCAR's work.

Since January 1997, ARA has again been working with other community organizations, to build resistance to unrestrained police killings of Black and Brown people (see page 18). The Coalition Against Racist Police Violence (CARP-V) has worked almost without stop, holding demos, press conferences, and

In general, we don't accept that fighting back against oppression will make oppression worse. And in this case, time proved that we had judged the situation correctly when we took the fight to Gary Schipper's doorstep; that action was an important blow against the fash in Toronto. Moreover, the accusation levelled against us at the time, that we were "white anti-racists who had put people of colour at risk", was actually quite ridiculous in light of the many Black and Brown youth who had enthusiastically participated in the demonstration.

Today, political differences around tactics remain. But we can count on support from community organizers who are consistent in their own work, who are consistent in their criticism of police, and who don't rely on government funding.

Of course they expect the same level of consistency and commitment from us. Living up to those expectations is one of our biggest challenges. ●

Over the past five years, many youths have come on board with ARA. Some are gone and some still around, but it's fair to say that the majority of them are still doing good shit one way or another. It would not have been possible without them!

Here is a modest attempt to show a cross section of ARA-Toronto activists – who come from all walks of life.

We are here to stay!!!



BRAINS BEHIND THE BALAKLAVA



D, 36 year old Jewish Queer activist....

I'm one of the older members of ARA. I've come to ARA mainly from working within the radical queer movement. As a teenager in the 70's, living in small town Ontario, I was involved with the moderate left, i.e., the NDP. When I got out of the small town I got involved in the Right to Privacy Committee and Gay Liberation Against the Right. I was involved for a short time in the Gay Anarchist Movement but I couldn't follow all the rules.

In early 1981 I moved to West Germany with my parents and lived there for more than five years. I'm a light-skinned North African Jewish Fag. So until I entered Germany I thought of myself as white. I quickly found out that even leftist Europeans didn't consider me white. I got hassled by the right-wing racists, and condescended to by the left-wing racists. Even the Greens wondered about why I would want to live in a "white" country where I could "never belong." Of course when I moved back to Canada, everybody, except recent European immigrants, considered me white again. I think of myself as outside these definitions now; I can use my privilege, but it is really, really fragile.

I joined Queer Nation Toronto after marching in three demonstrations. For some reason that year I was rather photogenic and got my face either in the newspapers or the TV at each demo. I was excited at the development of a new identity that challenged how the system worked. Unfortunately, Queer Nation had a rough time trying to deal with internal identity politics and unlearning. This was the first long-term involvement I had with what I call Zen non-racism. (Once you attain "Racism Is Bad" you have done all the work you are ever going to have to do on it. After all you are now "Not A Racist.") At one meeting one of the people asked why we were wasting our time on subjects that didn't involve Queers, like anti-semitism and racism. It didn't take too long for Queer Nation to fold under the pressures. Two years later I ran across an article at the Canadian Lesbian and Gay archives that cited me as one of the causes. Oh well.

I joined ARA Toronto in a similar way that I joined Queer Nation. I attended demos before I ever set foot in a meeting. Since then I have been involved, with a couple of health and school breaks. ARA seems diverse enough to engage in a series of issues. The core of the group understands the importance of long-term unlearning work. We have a broader range of identities of any group that I had ever been involved with. I have fun working on the radio and helping at demos. My fondest memory is being the bar-b-que cook at Ernst Zundel's Kosher Demo.

Th-th-th-th-that's all Folks.

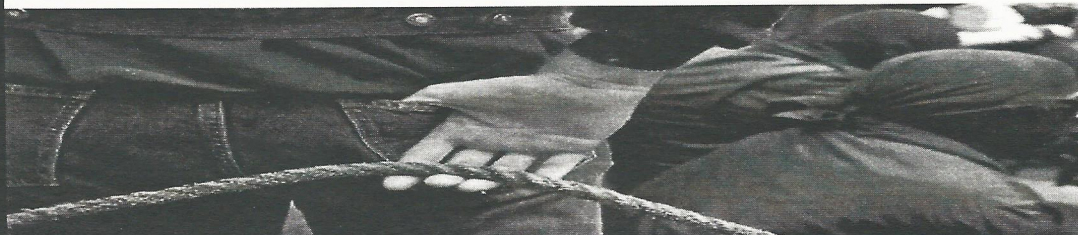


C, a 15 year old bi-racial female punk-rocker....

Anti-fascism is an important part of my life 'cause of having first hand experience of racism, such as people feeling my hair and being called a "half-breed". There are plenty of fucking denials of racism and hatred in our country. People think this is a country of freedom, acceptance and equality for everybody. That's shit!!! I have experienced comments from both white and black people 'cause I am not white or black enough. I should be accepted not for being black or white, but for who I am.

Lots of folks end up denying that racism exists and they try to sweep it under the rug. I think people should recognize and expose it. As young people we have the power and energy to combat racism. The nazis are the epitome of the racist society. They hate people like me and call us "mud people". For this reason I have chosen to get involved in the fight against them. Racism doesn't end with the fight against fascists, it extends beyond to other aspects of society: such as governmental policies, schools, religion, media, and KKKops. I take part in anti-KKKop demos, Native solidarity work, organizing anti-racist concerts, among other things.

The ARA is a more exciting and interesting anti-racist group than most of the other mainstream ones. ARA shares some of the same views as I do, while providing a grass-roots solution to rectify the situation we are all facing at the hands of these racist systems.





S, a 14 year old punk-skater dude.....

My involvement in ARA Toronto has been since November 1996. At my first meeting, I didn't know what to expect. All I knew was that ARA stood for Anti-Racist Action, & I hoped that's what it was. From the pamphlets I had read I figured that ARA did no more than anti-hate propaganda. But I was wrong. ARA is an active voice in the anti-fascist scene. I have been to demonstrations protesting against injustices in the native community. I have helped to organize shows to benefit the Black Action Defense Committee & the Stoney Point Legal Fund.

Recently we went on a camping trip with 5 other chapters. We were there for one weekend and over that time I realized that anti-fascism brings people together. ARA has brought me together with many different people.

Anti-racism is as strong as ever, but there are still people with closed minds. My involvement with ARA has helped me to educate ignorant assholes. Being involved with ARA helps me do my part to eliminate racism.

N, a 24 year old Fillipina....

When I first came out here to Toronto the activist scene was impressively thriving. A lot of Action to get you hooked on loving resistance work, and that's what ARA is all about. Serious politics combined with serious minds receive the harshest forms of oppression. And although government and white supremacist moles combine their privileges in white society to try to restrict our mobility, we have proven that we can do work without the component of dependant government funding. It is almost a compliment to be thought of so highly by the likes of Canadian Secret Service. ARA is a courageous organization of resourceful youth. With chapters rapidly mushrooming from highschoools to independant groups across North America, we are the anti-fascist youth who are self-educated and have learned the consequences of what hateful violent sick white mother fuckers who would try to destroy lives of us diversified people, such as Natives Peoples and people of colour, and our race mixing counterparts can do. This is why I love ARA.

After five years of struggle we have come to represent a consistent drive towards equality and emancipation against white supremacy.

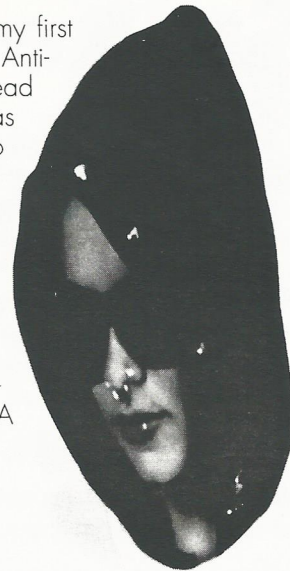


E, a 16 year old non-religious Jewish chick...

I hate Nazis because they hold nation & race above anything else. They try to spread their fascist beliefs via exploiting society's ignorance & fears. Though Hitler's Germany may be a thing of the past, fascism is still found everywhere - from kkkops to Preston Manning & beyond.

As a member of a minority culture, I've noticed our schools and other public institutions ignore anything that isn't WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant). They are exclusionary towards and ignorant about anything they don't care to understand.

In the ARA, there is an opportunity for fighting racism & fascism in our communities. I have found a valid way to show my opposition to the ideals of society which I hate. I have been involved with mainstream groups, but was pissed off by their need to put public image before action... did it ever occur to them that cops are racist too? In ARA exposing, opposing and confronting Nazis takes priority over kissing ass. Organizing and taking part in actions and gigs makes ARA fun as well as giving a feeling like you're fucking up this racist system. ●



ANTI-FA
NFO
ON THE PHOM
ANTI-FA
ACTION
TORONTO



Spikes & Mohawks...

The best thing about rebellious youth sub-cultures – skaters, skinheads, homies, hardcore kids or punk rockers (to name a few) – is their disgust for authority. They each come out of a distinct social and historical context. But the underlying theme of all these trends is kids trying to be different from the mainstream, boring, way of life. Mainstream culture is authoritarian and is protected by institutions like police, schools, media etc. Rejecting the styles and attitudes imposed by these institutions makes youth sub-cultures rebellious.

Anti-Racist Action has always recognized the positive values of youth culture. When ARA started in 1992, young people from different scenes in the city played the most important role of getting the shit done! We're not stuck on any one particular scene... we recognize that all subcultures are cool. Maybe there's differences

between these scenes, but we've tried to find things that these sub-cultures have in common to create a space where we can act together. That's why we have been successful in creating a diverse youth movement.

These days, most political scenes operate from the top down. When political groups push particular ideologies, kids are rightfully reserved about them – most subcultures being disgusted by dogmatic bullshit. Kids are wary of "outsider" or "know everything" types who want to "show the right way". ARA believes that nobody has the moral high ground to show the "way" to anybody.

Hatred towards "different" people and white supremacy are norms in mainstream culture. Fascists represent the epitome of authority and subjugation, values rejected by youth subcultures. Disgust for imposed

attitudes, inherent in most youth subcultures, can develop into strong anti-fascist attitudes.

Anti-fascism is not a question of right or left, or of being "political" or not. It's about being right and wrong. Wrong shits like nazis don't have a place anywhere – they are the people who try to spoil our scenes by introducing the politics of hate and authoritarian norms.

ARA believes that no outside force can act like "moral police". There are strong people in every scene who are capable of smashing racism and fascism that sometimes try to creep into their scene. We can support each other and form a common ground.

Let's get rid off any semblance of nazi slime in our scenes... and have lots of fun!!!

To some, punk means a lifestyle, to others a fashion, a music style or just an attitude. Everyone has a different idea of what punk is. However the majority of those who consider themselves punk based on one of the latter 3 points is probably just into punk as a trend, a way to be stylish and/or to piss off mommy & daddy. Punk tends to be based on all 4 points.

Contrary to popular belief punks tend to be politically & socially conscious about issues that aren't usually dealt with by various other youth subcultures, issues such as: Capitalism, Nuclear testing, Hierarchical structures (i.e. Governments, Monarchy, Religion, etc.), among many other problems of society.

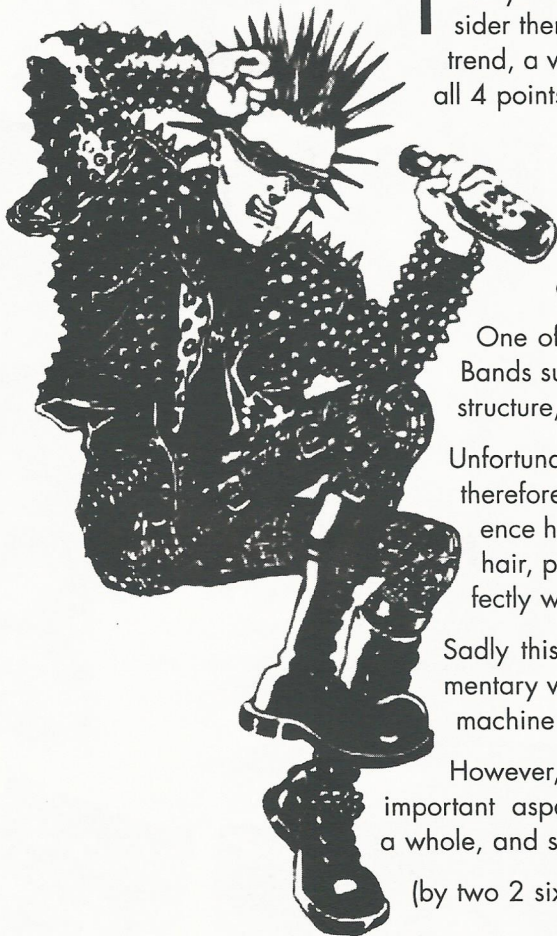
One of punk's most prominent mediums for confronting these issues is through music. Bands such as Conflict, the Pist, and Aus Rotten have dealt with problems such as Class structure, Corruption of governments, and Animal liberation through their songs.

Unfortunately, Big Business has taken notice of punk rock and chosen to water it down, therefore making it more accessible to a mainstream public. Now this new-found audience has chosen to "Pop the Punk Pill", with their perfectly "punk" clothes, freshly dyed hair, punky-punk attitudes, and safety pins for added authenticity, to co-ordinate perfectly with their rancid/green day image which was perpetrated on Much Music.

Sadly this latter image is predominately how punk is viewed. It is an unfortunate commentary when a movement based upon revolt against the system is now a money making machine for the society it once rejected.

However, there are good folks who keep the roots of this tradition. One of the most important aspect of this subculture is that anti-fascism is deeply entrenched in the subculture as a whole, and some of the finest anti-fascists can be found here.

(by two 2 sixteen year old punk chicks of ARA-Toronto)



...Boots & Braces

Skinheads

Skinheads are among the most misunderstood youth subcultures. To the general public the sight of a shaved head, boots and braces (suspenders) triggers images of white power hate mongers who seek to violently eliminate immigrants and minorities from our communities. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth.

Dating back to the origins of the skinhead subculture, it is clear that this has always been a movement that embraced racial unity and has never been anywhere near to fascism. The first distinct traces of skinhead influence came from two sources: mods and Jamaican rude boys. Mods were youths who hoped to break from the 50's "rocker" image that had become the uniform for rebellious youth; as times change so should style. They wore suits with 3 buttons, Fred Perrys, creepers and other clothes thought outrageous in those days. Like skinheads, mods drove scooters, hung out in crews and were always ready to fight their opposition. Most importantly, however, the mods were a working class subculture. Beginning in the mid 60s, many mods started leaving the scene. For those who stayed, a schism started to develop. There were more traditional mods who refused to change, and there were tougher mods who clung less to the original style. They cropped their hair to look tougher and for an advantage in fighting (no hair to pull).

Now begins the skinhead subculture. It's clear that skinheads didn't originate from right wing ideology. It holds a working class origin based on pride, strength, and camaraderie. The mods were a racially diverse group. The music they enjoyed (the Jam, the Who, etc.) was influenced by R&B and other genres with Black roots. However, the true multiculturalism of the skinhead movement was not present until the late 60s when England received immigrants from the West Indies, particularly Jamaica.

Jamaica at the time had its own working class subculture, the Rude Boys. Like the skinheads they were tougher than tough, from working class families, and had a gang mentality, hanging out in crews. The skinheads who had not found a music to call their own fell in love with ska, the music of choice for Rude Boys. Only with the ska influence was the skinhead movement strongly defined. It is an interesting fact that the term whigger (used currently as an insult to white people who "act Black") was first applied to skinheads. This manifested around 1969, known as the glory year of the skinhead subculture.

These were the years in which there was no politics involved in the skinhead movement. Many traditionals claiming to cling to the "spirit of 69" often speak of the unity involved when there was a lack of politics. Unfortunately, this is untrue. There was always conflict amongst the older skins and the new ones, skins from different districts and so forth. There was never a unified skinhead scene. But the argument against "politics" could be well understood, seeing what was to come. However, from a racial perspective, there was hardly any confrontation.

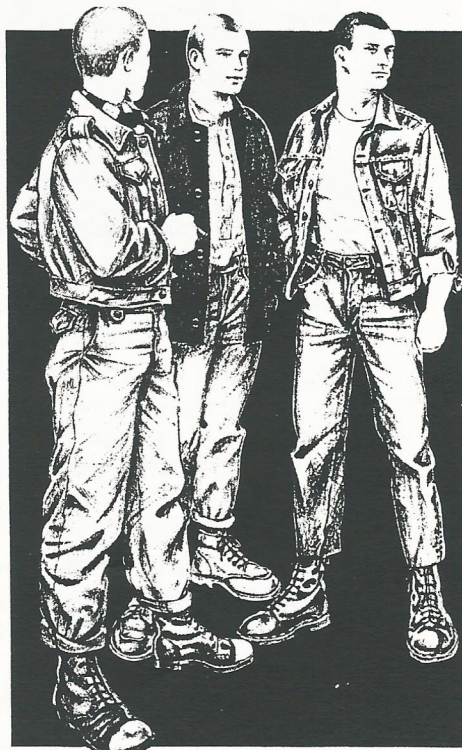
This all came to an end in 1974 when the National Front, the British Fascist party, needed shock troops to violently promote its scene. Skinheads had a reputation of being street tough and so were desired by the NF. While many deny it, some skinheads did

join the NF. Why? First, as mentioned, skinheads are part of a subculture, one which is not based on a particular political orientation. If one took a cross-section of skinheads one would find some to be overtly racist, but most not. The proportions would be similar to those in other subcultures and the general public. Second, being a subculture that is mainly working class, it is prone to ideas of the far right. The white working class is an easy target for fascists who blame unemployment and economic crisis on immigrants. Due to the growing recession, record unemployment and an influx of immigrants, some skinheads sided with the NF. Hoping to ride on the reputation of real skinheads, the NF started dressing up NF youths like skinheads. Another subculture had emerged, one based on fascism and the dream of an Aryan nation. These were the boneheads.

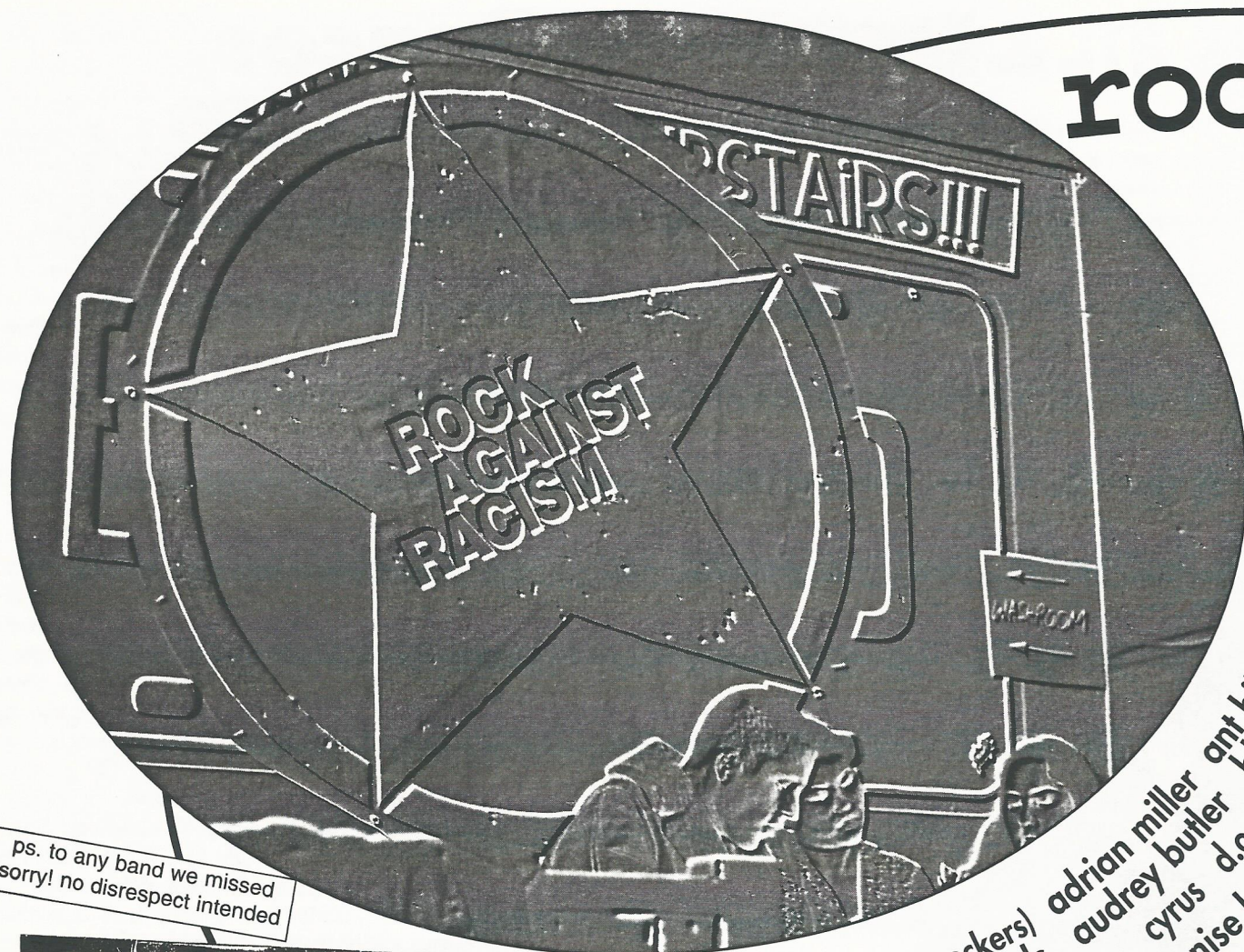
Skinheads have established organizations with the hope of separating and smashing these nazi posers from the true skinheads. SHARP (SkinHeads Against Racial Prejudice) was established in 1989 and was very successful in driving boneheads out of their cities. For example, in New York the nazi menace has been nearly eradicated. Many traditional skinheads were against SHARP claiming that they were simply tearing the scene apart as the nazis did in the mid-70s. Many of the battles of pro- and anti-racism were fought in a new brand of skinhead music called Oi!. Oi! is like skinhead punk, yet holding a distinct sound of its own. It speaks of inner-city life and of youths lost in the system. Bonehead bands—Skrewdriver, The Squadron—used Oi! to propel their Nazi message. But, bands like the Oppressed, Sham 69 and Red Alert spoke vehemently against fascism. In the early 80's a skinhead named Bishop formed RASH (Red and Anarchist SkinHeads), an organization grouping skinheads with leftist views. Because socialism and anarchism are the politics of the working class, the two go hand in hand. Unlike SHARP, RASH is not based on recruitment. RASH is political, bringing more antagonism between them and traditionals. It is obvious however that many traditionals who over the years have claimed "no politics" hide behind it a right wing and nationalist agenda.

What remains most important is that one does not become a skinhead because of one political orientation or another. This said it's also important that one must not reject skinhead politics simply because of appearance. True skinheads live under the unity of ska and share the working class values of Oi! ●

(by a 17 year old Jewish skin of ARA-Toronto)



rock



ps. to any band we missed
sorry! no disrespect intended



Cheers to HOODRAT out of Oakville (just west of Toronto), a three piece band with female vocals, together since September 1995. In their own words:

"Mid-80's aggressive, super fast punk rock, with a Minor Threat, 7 Seconds kind of feel. It definitely ain't pop punk, but we don't play any of that metal crap either! Very "pit-oriented", because of our tempo... extreme amount of live energy... play a ton of shows — we prefer the DIY, all ages shows, but we play all sorts of venues. Have played with bands like the



Planet Smashers, MDC,
The Sick Boys, Dayglo Abortions & more.

So far we've released an EP entitled "Fuck Corporate Punk". It's a self-release, totally DIY (and damn proud of it)... Nothing Hoodrat sells is over two bucks (even records and t-shirts)... Lyrically we deal with issues like capitalism in the punk scene, the aftermath of date rape, nazi boneheads, violence and elitism in the straight edge hard core scene, etc.

Politics are important to us, and the band is one medium (we also produce the zine **Punk Fiction**) of expressing them... we try not to beat people over the head with it (nobody likes to be preached to)

Organize, educate, unite and fight!"

Watch for their LP release in September

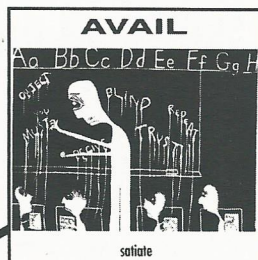
Cheers
to all the
and pe
your t
and A

"jc" (mods & rockers) adrian miller ant hill kids
armed and hammered arsenals audrey butler blundermen
chicken milk clifton joseph col. bompink cyrus d.o.t. da u know w
derek miller dinner is ruined dirge dj denise benson dj d
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jeet kei jemini jungle bouti orchestra l
lillian allen los cholos lynn shaw
michael achtman michi
parka kings pecc
politikill inc
rabb

against racism

and shout-outs
bands, DJs, MCs
performers who have shared
talents and skillz with Rock Against Racism
in Toronto over the past five years!

are a
warriors
eski bok
intrikits & da boogie brats
white lager lads
marva jackson mc no mega rocks
new day rising nga awa nu black nation
pizzamind plains of fascination planet smashers
poor motivational syndrome project 9 provos productions
random killing repeat offender rhythm activism rusty
seventh fire simple sistah loyce smokers soul controllers
splay stumblin' tongues thando hyman too hectic
trunk ubad whatever wailin' souljahs west side cre
unabombers venus cures all di yi-i-e-e li nah



In every city, there are bands which can take credit for helping to create an anti-racist and anti-fascist consciousness among the YOUTH.

And then there are bands which can take credit for helping to spread that beyond their own cities, in very concrete ways.

In the States, the **Mighty Mighty BosSTones** have stayed true to their ska roots by promoting ARA and the anti-racist cause. They have brought ARA organizers with them on their tour buses as they cruise from city to city and helped to create nazi-free zones at their shows.

Another way-cool band who have brought ARA folks on tour with them is **Avail**, a hardcore outfit from Richmond, Virginia. They recently played dates in Ontario and Quebec, giving us a chance to hook up and hear the news from other cities and towns.

Up here in the Canada, Winnipeg's **Propagandhi** have been strong supporters too, part of their larger message against oppression of all kinds. The band is playing gigs for ARA Winnipeg and ARA Calgary this September, helping ARA catch fire across the prairies. One band member came to check out the ARA Network gathering in Columbus, Ohio last year. We hope we'll see him back again, and any other artists or musicians who want to plug into the anti-fascist scene!

PRO-FEMINIST **GAY POSITIVE** **ANTI-FASCIST** **ANIMAL-FRIENDLY**

PROPAGANDHI
MORE ROCK LESS TALK

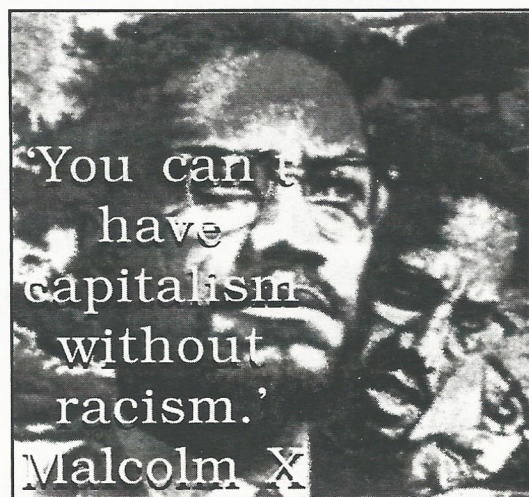
Fat Wreck Chords: P.O. Box 460144 San Francisco, Ca 94146

The following articles do not represent ARA-Toronto's "official" analysis of race & class... we have no official analysis of race & class and have not spent time discussing race & class as a group. Individuals within ARA chose to write the following article and book review based on their own interpretations of the politics of race & class.

ANTI-RACISM & ITS ROLE

due to the state of economic catastrophe, nazi's led the people into believing the distorted perception of Jewish people running the German economy and diverting the influx of money. The prodigious communist writer Leon Trotsky stated that when the petty bourgeoisie risks losing its economic footing, it resorts to fascism as a means of maintaining economic inequality and its own wealth. This was the case in all fascist countries. While the mentality of safeguarding one's capital is displayed to a lesser degree in modern capitalist nations the symbiotic relationship between racism and capitalism is crucial.

Now we see that racism is neither an idea of twisted science nor a legitimate belief, but a peripheral of the capitalist system utilized to accumulate wealth. In the words of Malcolm X "You can't have capitalism without racism". Because racism is a manifestation of the capitalist system, the fight for racial equality under the confines of a capitalist



From the foundations of North American society, racism has been an integral piece of the functionings of the capitalist system. Throughout history, the alienation and exploitation of the working class has run alongside the oppression and inequality of minority groups. However, in developing an anti-racist strategy, we rarely consider the relationship of these two groups and in turn, their relation to the machinery of capitalism.

Capitalism is a system based on the drive for monetary gain where the bourgeoisie stops at nothing to accumulate capital, tenaciously ignoring any questions of morality or ethics. It was under these parameters that racism was utilized by the burgeoning elitist society to thrive economically. To take an early example, in the 1600's such premises as the "inferiority" of Africans surfaced for the justification of slavery. Slavery was a practice that enabled the ruling classes of Europe and North America to accumulate capital at an astoundingly accelerated pace. However, in order to subdue the consciousness of the populace, "scientific" proof was provided to dictate the "inferiority" of blacks and other visible minorities. Then in the 19th Century, the "white man's burden" was applied as a motivation and an explanation for the rush of colonialism. Also in the example of Nazi Germany: by manipulating mass-disillusionment

a book review of

Settlers: The Mythology of the White Proletariat...

by J. Sakai

Settlers: The Mythology of the White Proletariat by J. Sakai offers an examination of North America's historical foundations which you are not likely to find in many other places. *Settlers* turns most assumptions about the foundation— the conquest and "development"— of North America upside-down. Sakai peels away layer after layer of settler propaganda, backed up by more than adequate statistical and historical documentation, to reveal the parasitic nature of North American settler life, including the parasitic nature of the white "working classes".

"The key to understanding America is to see that it was a chain of European settler colonies that expanded into a settler empire," writes Sakai. Sakai presents the argument that the class structure at the beginning of the American colony consisted of Euro-American bourgeois and petit-bourgeois and that the real proletariat was made up of the captive nations— Africans, Asians and the Indigenous peoples of North America. As Sakai progresses through American history, he continuously demonstrates how the

class structure in America evolved, and how its evolution always served to privilege whites— the settler nation— over the captive nations.

Genocide and slavery are the two foundations of colonial America. European hunger for land was the fuel behind attempts to exterminate the Indigenous Nations of the Americas. Before Columbus landed on a Caribbean island in 1492, there were 100 million people living in the Western Hemisphere: 10 million in North America, 25 million in Central Mexico and 65 million in South and Central America. By the end of the 17th century, the Indigenous population of the Spanish colonies had been reduced from 50 million to only 4 million!

The mythology now promoted by the settler nations of Canada and the US to conceal the genocide of First Nations is that North America was empty— "a howling wilderness," "unsettled," "sparsely populated," and "spacious."

Secondly, "what is necessary to underline is how universally

IN THE CLASS STRUGGLE

system is futile. To ensure this, many of the systematic traits of capitalism hinder any chance of race reconciliation.

The initial schism that the capitalist regime attempts to induce is racial segregation. Following the abolition of slavery, segregation was implemented on a rudimentary level with "white only", "Black only" signs. This has now evolved into a tactic that manipulates the artificial urges of man, which are implanted by capitalism itself. The white working class is being manipulated into believing that it is the Black and immigrant population that threatens their economic subsistence.

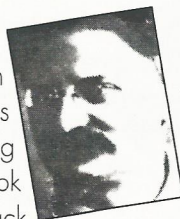
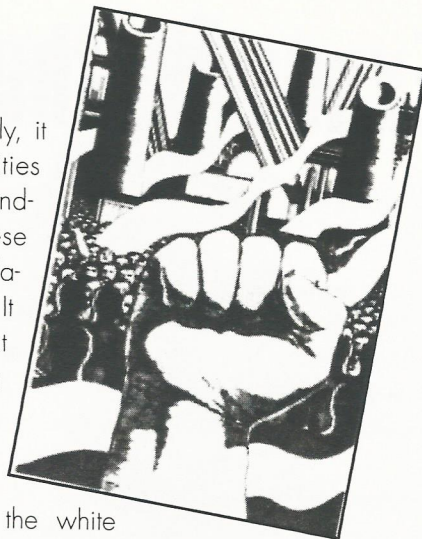
It has also been a most common occurrence in North America, that the struggle for black liberation has been a unilateral one with organizations such as the Black Panther Party and the Nation of Islam being exclusionary to whites. Trotsky stated in his book "Black Nationalism and Self-Determination" that black isolationism is a product of a capitalist environment. Because the capitalist has induced into the white worker a greed for capital, the blacks see the whites as inept to their struggle.

The bourgeois mentality has also permeated the black community. Another reason for the flawed civil rights struggle in North America is the black middle class' alienation of the black working class. The capitalist hierarchy, to ensure its subsistence, will allow only a few minorities to rise higher up on the ladder. This accomplishes two main goals. First of all it demonstrates a false pretense that anyone has a chance at making it regardless of

their race. Secondly, it divides minorities along class boundaries. For these reasons, black isolationism is flawed. It ignores the fact that the black working class has a stronger economic and emotional

resemblance with the white working class than with the black middle and upper class. Capitalism has created a superficial animosity both between races and within races themselves. As Frederick Douglas stated: "They divided both to conquer each".

The populace must be brought to a realization that the anti-fascist struggle can not be a solitary or secular struggle in any sense, but it must be fought in unison with the working class struggle. It must also be mentioned that the libertarian and moderate path of governmental and social reforms within the capitalist system to bring change is unavailing and quixotic. The true solution lies in a unified class struggle by means of revolution which would ultimately lead to a classless society. In a classless society there is no potential for exploitation and profit and therefore racism would be obsolete. ●



...The true story of the White Nation

European capitalist life was dependent upon slavery and how **this exploitation dictated the very structure of Euro-American society.** "Dependency upon slavery extended to every member of the settler nation:

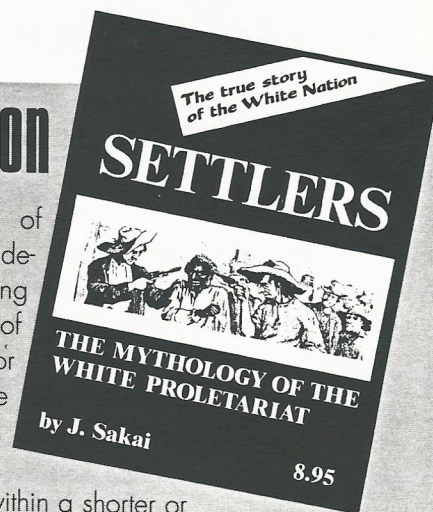
"...all sections of white settler society— even the artisan, worker and farmer— were totally dependent upon Afrikan slave labor: The fisherman whose low-grade, 'refuse fish' was dried and sold as slave meal; the New York farmer who found his market for surpluses in the southern plantations; the forester whose timber was used by shipyard workers rapidly turning out slave ships; the clerk in the New York City export house checking bales of tobacco awaiting shipment to London; the young Virginia overseer building up his 'stake' to try and start his own plantation... and on and on."

Although laborers made up only 5% of the settler population in the 18th century, even this low position was temporary for settlers. Marx later observed:

"Capital may there [Amerika] try its utmost. It cannot prevent the labor market from being continuously emptied from by the

continuous conversion of wages laborers into independent, self-sustaining peasants. The position of the wages laborer is for a very large part of the American people but a probational state, which they are sure to leave within a shorter or longer term."

All this information and more is packed into the first 11 pages of *Settlers*. Sakai goes on to examine different periods of American history, debunking the mythology of the white proletariat. *Settlers* is a good book for anti-racists in North America to read and challenge our own assumptions about North America's class structure. A read through *Settlers* will engross you in revelations which may jolt you into a new understanding of just how much carnage and exploitation provided the foundation of North American settler society. ●



Exposing the Amerikkkan Holocaust...

A few points to keep in mind about anti-Native organizing:

- groups actively fighting First Nations sovereignty and rights like to throw around the word "equality." They pretend that treating First Nations as if they're Canadian citizens just like your average Euro-settler is fair, just and, most importantly, not racist. They deny that First Nations are actually sovereign, self-determining peoples, who after 500 years are still resisting Canadian and US efforts to control their lands and communities. The anti-Native movement talks about "equality" but what they mean is *assimilation* – the end of indigenous peoples as their own nations, governed by their own traditions and with particular relationships to the governments of Canada and the US. Which is only another form of genocide. Kinda like fascists lean on "freedom of speech" to evade the fact that they promote genocide.
- in KKKanada, lots of people involved with ON F.I.R.E. and BC F.I.R.E. are connected with the Reform Party, now the official opposition. Several executive members of BC F.I.R.E. and Brian Richardson, a founding member of ON F.I.R.E., are members of the Reform Party. Richardson ran for Reform in the last federal election but first he resigned from ON F.I.R.E. because he didn't want his candidacy as a Reform MP to tarnish the image of ON F.I.R.E. (?!)
- anti-Native organizing is often centred around "recreational" industries such as tourism, angling and hunting, and cottagers.
- there are links between anti-Native activity and the racist right. Mel Smith is a columnist for BC Report, a right-wing magazine popular in western Canada. BC Report, known for its Christian fundamentalism, was one of the main promoters of the Reform Party in Reform's early days. Also, Davison Ankney, former president of the OFAH, is a founding member of the campus based Society for Academic Freedom and Scholarship (SAFS). SAFS members include several eugenicists and an individual, Kenneth Hilborn, whose writings have been published by Paul Fromm's Citizens for Foreign Aid Reform (C-FAR). SAFS started up to defend Phillippe Rushton from student outrage at his eugenicist theories.

A common understanding of Anti-Racist Action as an anti-fascist group is that our activism is mostly "exposing, opposing and confronting" neo-fascists and neo-Nazis.

We think of the Nazi holocaust mostly as a planned and calculated genocide of the Jewish People. Many of us know that the Nazis also targeted Romas ("Gypsies"), queers, psychiatric patients, disabled people, political activists and others for the Nazi gas ovens. Lots of ARA targets have been holocaust deniers, outright fascists, and fascist sympathizers and apologists.

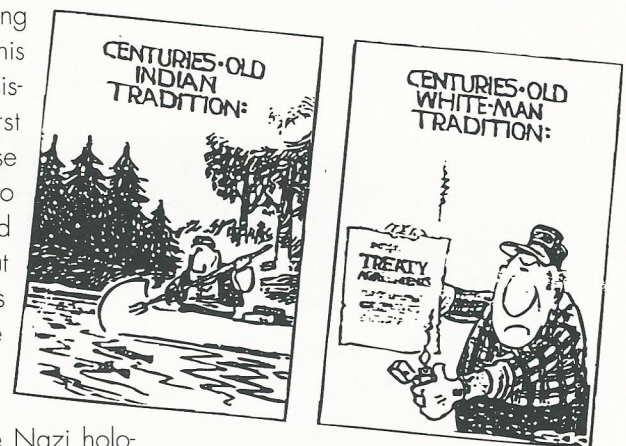
But how many of us realize that Hitler drew his twisted inspiration from the genocide inflicted on the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island (North America)? Check this quote from Hitler, quoted in Ward Churchill's *Struggle for the Land*: "Neither Spain nor Britain should be models of the German expansion, but the Nordics of North America, who had ruthlessly pushed aside an inferior race to win for themselves soil and territory for the future."

Before Columbus landed on a Caribbean island in 1492, there were 100 million people living in the Western Hemisphere, 10 million of them in North America. By 1900 there were only 200 000 - 300 000 surviving descendants in the 'USA. That's between 2-3% of the original 10 million population of North Amerikkka! Like Hitler intended to eliminate Jewish People, North American settlers and settler governments have been intent on eliminating the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island. **Like Hitler they have not succeeded.**

For ARA-Toronto, something new to us as a group this past year has been consistent solidarity with First Nations. And it's because of this that we've started to talk more in the group and in the info we put out about KKKanada and the US as settler nations. We've also started to make the links – and know the differences – between the Nazi holocaust and the ongoing holocaust against First Nations.

In September 1996, ARA-Toronto began working more closely with the people of Stoney Point First Nation – the Aazhoodenaang Enjibaaig. Stoney Point is where Dudley George was murdered by Acting Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Sergeant Kenneth Deane in 1995. Dudley George and others were protecting traditional burial grounds located in Aazhoodena Territory, then being used as a provincial park. Canada's federal government took the Stoney Pointers' unceded territory during WWII to create a military base. The Stoney Pointers have since returned home, booting the military off their territory, even though Canada's federal government refuses to acknowledge that the land is Stoney Point Territory.

ARA organized a gig to raise \$\$ for the Stoney Point Legal Fund, helped to design a Dudley George Memorial t-shirt, went to Stoney Pointers' court dates and worked with other organizations in Toronto to push for an inquiry into the



... confronting the anti-Native agenda

murder of Dudley George.

We've also helped out the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee with a couple fundraising gigs and will support the Friends of the Lubicon when they go to court this September. Friends of the Lubicon organized a boycott of logging company Daishowa, which was going to log on Lubicon Cree Territory in Alberta. The boycott was so successful that Daishowa slapped Friends of the Lubicon with a court case against the boycott.

ARA is trying to apply our anti-fascist organizing to First Nations solidarity in a very concrete way: by exposing and opposing organized anti-Native groups.

Only a month after Dudley

George was killed settlers living around Stoney Point formed an organization called Ontario Federation for Individual Rights and

Equality (ON F.I.R.E.). ON F.I.R.E. members like to talk about "equality" and rabidly profess that Natives should have no "special" rights. Yet it seems that ON F.I.R.E. is really more concerned about the effect that government and police retaliation against Stoney Point has had on their property values and on the locally "important" tourist trade.

Another organization actively fighting First Nations is the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH). The OFAH is a mainstream, 74 000 member lobby group. At least since the early 90s, the OFAH has campaigned against the aboriginal and treaty fishing rights of the Chippewas of Nawash and Saugeen First Nation – through court cases, in their propaganda, through their cozy relationship with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

A former president of the OFAH and one of the main people behind the OFAH's anti-Native propaganda is Davison Ankney, a zoology professor at the University of Western Ontario. Ankney has done research and published a book with well-known eugenicist Phillippe Rushton, also based at Western.

Also significant is the book *Our Home or Native Land?* authored by Mel Smith. Smith's book, published in 1995 and promoted by ON F.I.R.E., BC F.I.R.E., Paul Fromm's Canadian Association for Freedom of Expression (CAFE) and the Reform Party of Canada, advocates for the assimilation of First Nations people into mainstream, white Canadian society.

While it is useful for ARA to expose groups such as ON F.I.R.E. and the OFAH, we have not been as successful with the most important work, that is, actively opposing them. Much of the fight against anti-Native organizing is going to take place in rural areas. The challenge facing ARA is to find effective ways of bringing this information to newer ARA groups in smaller cities and towns and helping to devise tactics for confronting anti-Native organizing.

In the past year ARA-Toronto has made a start of doing anti-colonial activism. As we continue in this work we hope to become more effective, and to bring First Nations struggles to others in the anti-fascist movement. ●



Resources:

Set Fire to ON F.I.R.E!: Exposing and Opposing anti-Native hate groups

An ARA-Toronto pamphlet. New pamphlet about the OFAH soon.

Anti-Indian Movements on the Tribal Frontier

A study by Dr. Rudolf Ryser of the Centre for World Indigenous Studies on anti-Native groups in the U.S. To order check their web site: www.halycon.com/FWDP/cwisinfo.html

Walleye Warriors: An Effective Alliance Against Racism and for the Earth

A book by Walter Bressette and Rick Whaley about how the Ojibwe (Chippewa) People and their supporters in Wisconsin effectively resisted attempts of sports fishermen to deny their fishing rights.

Clearinghouse on Environmental Advocacy and Research

CLEAR "tracks the industry supported backlash against the environmental movement" otherwise known as Wise-Use. Their web site has lots of info. You can subscribe to their publication *A CLEAR View*, which sometimes posts info about anti-Native organizing: send email with "subscribe" to

clear-view@ewg3.ewg.org

Web address:

www.ewg.org/pub/home/clear/clear.html

Struggle for the Land

A book by Ward Churchill about, "Indigenous resistance to genocide, ecocide and expropriation in contemporary North America." Check out the chapter *Perversions of Justice* for more detail about the similarities between North American colonization and the Nazi holocaust.

Settlers in Support of Indigenous Sovereignty

Runs a web site with info about current anti-colonial, self-determination and sovereigntist struggles. Lots of background info about colonialism and resistance to it. Info about groups actively resisting First Nations' sovereignty.

kafka.uvic.ca/~vipirg/SISIS/SISmain.html

Settlers: The Mythology of the White Proletariat

Good, intense read, check the book review, p.14. Can be ordered from ARA-Toronto for \$10.

THIS YEAR, METRO COPS HAVE ALREADY KILLED THREE PEOPLE OF COLOUR. In 1996, four people of colour were killed by cops in the Toronto area. Toronto has one of the highest per capita rates of police killings in all of North America. So much for that myth of Canada being a racism-free paradise.

Almost daily, police corruption is reported in Toronto's newspapers, and details of police killings reveal the hate behind the acts.

On March 30, Hugh Dawson, a Black man, was taken down by several Metro drug squad cops. Some of them were off duty. One brought his wife along to watch. Det. Constable Rick Shank, now a two-time killer cop, has been charged with manslaughter.

Dawson was in the driver seat of his car when plainclothes officers, none of whom identified themselves according to witnesses, smashed his car windows. Gunshot residue on Dawson reveals that the 10 shots in his body were fired from a third of a metre away.

In April 1993, Shank killed Ian Coley, a 21 year old Black man. After waiting 14 months to make a statement to the provincial Special Investigations Unit. (The SIU investigates all fatal or near fatal police brutality), no charges were laid against Shank.

Two-time killer Shank, only 27 years old, has been made a deskdud for the time being. Will the courts and Chief of Police David Boothby give Shank the opportunity to kill yet again?

An Asian man, Xie Pei Yang, was killed by Metrocops during a robbery at a Chinese restaurant on April 11. Although a gun was found on Yang, no shots were fired from it.

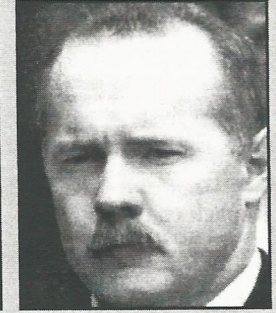
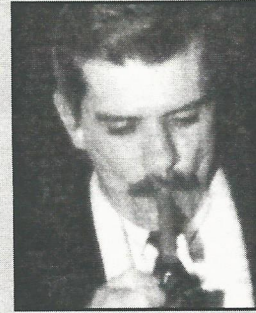
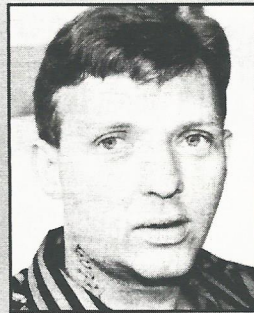
Another killer cop, David Deviney, was recently charged with discreditable conduct for racist remarks he made over the phone to

another cop. What Deviney didn't know when he complained about "Fucking n - - ers," who are, "all the same" was that the cop on the other end is Black! Deviney faces a hearing this fall.

Faraz Suleman, a 16 year old South Asian youth was killed on June 19, 1996 by Det. Robert Wiche. During a sting operation—set up by Faraz's mother to peacefully take her son in for questioning—Wiche shot Suleman in the head. Although Wiche had been charged with manslaughter, courts decided after a recent pre-trial hearing not to proceed with prosecuting Wiche.

In 1988, Deviney killed Lester Donaldson. He was charged and

police: deadliest perpetrators of hate crimes



From left to right: Robert Wiche, Rick Shank, David Deviney and Kenneth Deane.

aquitted and is seen here smoking a cigar in celebration after his trial.

When charges are laid against killer cops, they are most often acquitted of any wrong-doing. If they actually are convicted, they're given sentences that really don't mean anything. Kenneth Deane, guilty of criminal negligence in the shooting death of Dudley George, recieved a non-sentence of two years less a day of community service! Cops, with the power to kill and a legal system which rarely penalizes them for doing so, get away time and time again with a deadly act of hate—murder! ●

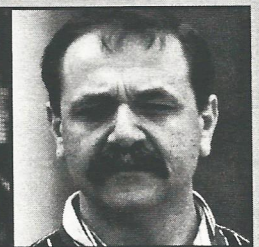
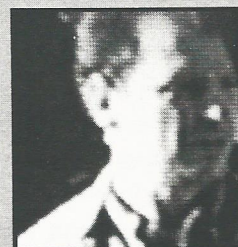
Two of the most common faces on the anti-racism circuit, who go to schools, community groups and visit victims of hate-crimes, are Det. Dino Doria and Det. Steve Irwin of Metro's Hate Crime Unit. We don't know about their personal lives, and we don't give a rat's ass for that matter. But these two walking sticks represent that ugly institution, the Police. They preach how violent the neo-nazis are and the need to stop them. In short... their message is to "educate" the public about the hatemongers. Wow... an admirable task. But their recipe is always the same; if you've got a problem with racist thugs, REPORT TO THE POLICE and mind your own business.

What we see on the ground is that whenever the fash show their ugly mugs in public, the Hate Crime Unit's role suddenly changes. Battling racism goes to the back seat and Dino and Steve show up to enforce "law and order" and swing the Criminal Code at the anti-fas, as if nazis are the poor victims of antifas' wrath. What they preach in forums and so on goes out the window and these "Officer Friendly's" act for what they really represent.

Once and for all.... this is an appeal to the honest people in the community. (Not for those 9 to 5 anti-racists). Forums and such are good, but don't for a moment get deceived by preachers like them. They don't have any damn power in their book to stop neo-nazi

organizing. **There is no law that can prevent a racist gathering.** In fact, given their track record as an institution based on white-supremacy, they don't have any genuine will to stop racist organizing. It's up to us, as a community, to respond to hatemongers. No institution can do it for us! ●

Crocodile tears from our "Hate Crime" Unit



Det. Steve

Det. Dino

IT WAS JUNE OF THIS YEAR AND ERNST ZUNDEL WAS ECSTATIC.

The RCMP had identified two people they claimed were responsible for sending a pipe bomb to Zundel back in 1995. The two, David Barbarash and Darren Thurston, are long-time anti-fascists and animal rights activists living in Vancouver.

The RCMP is trying to pin blame on them for a series of threats made to big-game guide outfitters, as well as for the pipe-bombs mailed not only to Zundel, but also to a cattle genetics company, to Charles Scott of the B.C. Aryan Nations, and to John Thompson of the Mackenzie Institute, a far-right think tank. (Only one exploded; no one was seriously injured by the bombs.)

Cops turn up the heat on anti-racists; fascists fan the flames

To Zundel's delight, homes and storage lockers related to the two were raided by RCMP, who walked off with computers, hundreds of papers and books, as well as personal stuff like letters, bank books, hairbrushes and so on.

It turns out that the RCMP have been monitoring these guys for TWO YEARS. The full-time investigators on the case have been bugging their homes, listening in on every phone call, every email message, and have been meeting EVERY DAY to compare notes for all this time. After the raids, they leaked the search warrant detailing the flimsy evidence against them to the media. Zundel brags that a friendly reporter quickly passed it on to him.

But months later, they still haven't laid any charges at all, leading reasonable people to wonder whether, in fact, they have any evidence actually tying the two to the pipe-bombs. Or are they just trying to create panic in anti-racist and animal rights circles? Or to discredit all of us and frighten people away from direct-action-oriented politics?

Back East, local fascists and their fellow travellers have been desperately trying to link ARA to these attempted pipe-bombings. Zundel in particular is scandalized that the search warrant used to raid Darren and David hardly refers to ARA at all.

On another level, far-right spy George Barkhouse has been working overtime to hassle ARA. Masquerading as a "concerned citizen", he began his crusade during the debate about public funding for our "Youth Against Hate" conference in June 1996. Since then he has lobbied Ontario school boards to ban us as a "hate group". He has made several complaints about our radio show on community radio station CKLN to the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). He raised a fuss over a Canadian Human Rights Commission poster which included ARA Winnipeg (!) as a contact for interested youth.

His campaign hit a stumbling block when we went public with evidence of his nazi links: the Heritage Front described him

as one of their "activists in the field" in their own newsletter – so much for his "concerned citizen" charade!

We also publicized his bizarre attempt to infiltrate ARA and other left/anti-fascist groups two years ago – an attempt which failed miserably. Not only did he get nothing from us, but he helped us with lots of names and faces, and also informed us of major Paul Fromm meeting in Edmonton and the Vancouver area. Both these meetings were then disrupted, first by ARA Edmonton, and in Vancouver by a community/labour campaign that was endorsed by B.C.'s Attorney-General.

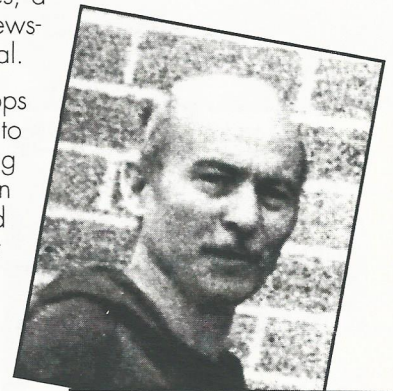
Barkhouse first tried to distance himself from the fash, and even complained to the CRTC when we described him as linked to the HF. But the CRTC wasn't buying it and dismissed his complaint. Then Barkhouse shifted gears and spoke at a Paul Fromm meeting, while Wolfgang Droege, Marc Lemire, and Phil Grech did security outside (helped out by several Metro cops). Guess buddy Barkhouse had to prove his loyalty to Fromm after being exposed as a snitch!

But Barkhouse's main support is among fringer-right types like the Voice of Canadians, which has enjoyed the backing of far-right Metro councillors and some Tory MPPs. He also boasts of his cozy relationship with the *Ottawa Times*, a Christian Right affiliated newspaper from KKKanada's capital.

Most sickeningly of all, cops have been more than willing to back up Barkhouse's lobbying efforts. When the Human Rights Commission asked Metro's Hate Crime Unit about ARA (Toronto), they were told that we're thugs who "beat up people who look like nazis". A few school officials have been told by cops (including possibly CSIS or the RCMP) that we are "terrorists" – or at least trouble-makers or outside agitators. They never admit that kids need support from their peers against racist recruitment and violence in their own schools, and sometimes contact us for help that they don't get from the local authorities.

Zundel, Fromm, Barkhouse and the rest of these losers all claim to be "against the establishment." But whenever they get the chance, they try to sic the system against anti-fascists. Anytime the cops agree with them that ARA is a threat to the established order, they run to publicize it. And the cops don't mind... they want anti-fascists to be as tame and passive as possible, and are happy enough for nazis to run around spreading lies and rumours about the anti-racist movement.

Support & inquiries about Darren Thurston and David Barbarash can be sent to to POB 78061, 2606 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC V5N 1G8. ●

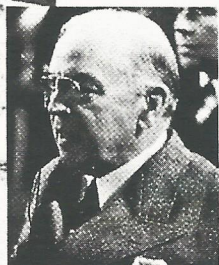


George Barkhouse, as exposed in Toronto's NOW magazine (Apr24-30,97)

KKKCanada: Jews refused...



Canadian Prime Minister King (right) said of Hitler: "He might come to be thought of as one of the saviours of the world. He had the chance at Nuremburg but was looking to Force, to Might, and to Violence as means to achieve his ends, which were, I believe, at heart, the well-being of his fellow-man; not all fellow-men, but those of his own race."



Between the years of 1933 & 1945 KKKCanada opened its doors to less than 5 thousand Jewish people. In the post war years of economic prosperity & labour shortages KKKCanada again did jackshit. Of the 65 000 refugees let into KKKCanada through 1948 only 8 000 were Jewish, though the majority of displaced persons in Europe were Jews. This was not the result of a small oversight.

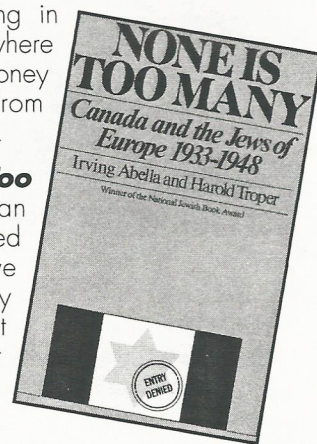
None is Too Many seeks to expose the deep rooted anti-semitism of the KKKCanadian government & policies during the 1930's & 1940's. Throughout the entire genocide of the European Jewry, the KKKCanadian officials of the Immigration & External affairs ministries worked tirelessly to come up with excuse after excuse to keep Jews out of KKKCanada. Even in the late 1930's when the world was aware of the degree of anti-semitism in Nazi Germany, KKKCanadian immigration director F C Blair was encouraging Hitler to find "domestic solutions" to the "Jewish problem".

The political calculations of the government were supported by the KKKCanadian public, especially in Quebec, where petitions

were signed opposing "all immigration and especially Jewish immigration".

After the war, KKKCanada eased up on immigration policies but continued to deny access to Jewish Holocaust victims. With the KKKCanadian immigration policy that was in place, it was easier for nazi war criminals to emigrate. For example the RCMP security officers "screened and approved... about a dozen men... (with) the SS mark tattooed under their armpits". At the same time, these officers interrogated a Jewish child as to "what were you parents doing in Auschwitz - and where did you get the money to come from Auschwitz here?".

None is Too Many is an extremely detailed and informative book. It really shows that KKKCanada is not truly "Glorious and Free"! ●



... Nazis welcomed

There may be hundreds or thousands of people living in Canada today who participated in atrocities against Jews and others in World War II. How did they end up here?

After the war, many Eastern Europeans who had collaborated with the Nazis were desperate to come to North America to escape from vengeful Soviets occupying their home countries. Some Canadian immigration officials welcomed these hard-line anti-communists, regardless of their wartime record.

This sickening political game has never been set right. To date, only THREE nazi war criminals have ever been deported from Canada, despite decades of investigation and lobbying from the Jewish community.

Last fall, a Jewish researcher personally interviewed over 60 possible Nazi war criminals living in Canada. Some even admitted to

being Nazi collaborators on tape! Steve Ramban had taken lists of suspected war criminals compiled by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, and found 150 of them through "sophisticated research techniques" - that is, he looked them up in the phone book, in driver registration lists and property records.

He released his research to the media to try to force some action from the government. The few cases going through the courts have been stalled again and again, while the suspected war criminals get older and older.

Since the War, the Jewish community has acted virtually alone to hold war criminals accountable and to retrieve even a tiny portion of the stolen wealth of the once thriving European Jewish community. They have had to break through walls of indifference, hostility and anti-Semitism. The German Nazis and their collaborators throughout Europe once hoped that the "Final Solution" would remove Jews from their sights forever. But from the ashes of that community, people have survived and continue to struggle for some concrete recognition of the loss they suffered. ●



Massacres of Jews and other fascist targets were carried out all over Eastern Europe by police forces affiliated with the Nazi SS. Many of those responsible have never been held accountable for their crimes.

Refugees stand up



for their rights

In Toronto's Metro West Detention Center there are about 150 refugee claimants being detained on immigration matters. On July 14, they began a hunger strike against conditions there which lasted over a week and drew attention to the denial of their rights by the Canadian government.

The people being held are refused basic hygiene products, like soap & shampoo. They are forced to sleep three to a cell – the cell measuring only 4 feet by 6 feet – and are not allowed to receive phone calls or faxes from their lawyers. Although most detentions are supposed to last "only" a few months, many are needlessly dragged out for several years. A significant number of detainees have refuted their refugee claims, preferring to return to life-threatening conditions in their home countries rather than languish in a jail for their claim to be heard.

Physical abuse, brutality and racist insults from the mostly white staff is very common, with many people citing an incident earlier this summer. Steve Williams, a failed

refugee claimant from Nigeria, was beaten severely both at the jail and at the airport on the eve of his deportation.

The government's excuse for detaining these people, almost all of whom are people of color, is to say that they are a "danger to the public". The Minister of Immigration does not feel he has to explain why these people have been labeled "dangerous" in order for them to be detained. Most detained refugee claimants and those detained on other immigration matters are held for non-criminal or non-violent acts. For this, and other reasons, the government is violating both domestic and international human rights laws.

On the annual Prison Justice Day, a vigil was held outside the West to show some support for the folks inside. For more long-term support, community organizations and legal clinics have formed a Community Coalition on Immigration to assist the detainees with having their legitimate complaints addressed.



a book review of

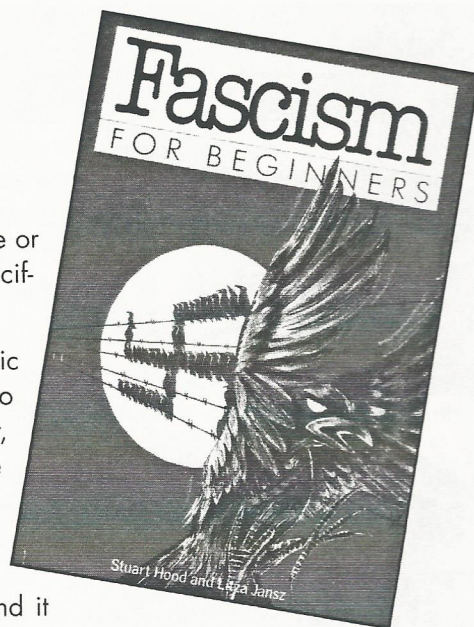
Fascism for Beginners

by Stuart Hood & Litza Jansz

It is common for the youths of our generation to apply the term fascist to anyone or anything that disagrees with them, failing to acknowledge that fascism is a specific political ideology.

Fascism for Beginners, an illustrated introduction to fascism, approaches the topic from two very important angles; the historical and theoretical. It traces back to the roots of racism then outlines the core characteristics of fascist regimes. Finally, Hood questions whether so-called "democratic" countries such as the U.S share many of these traits in common. *Fascism for Beginners* outlines the anti-fascist struggle. Through analyzing some of the prominent modern fascist parties the book traces the modern surge in the extremist right wing ideology. This book also looks at the philosophical influences of fascism, the modern theory behind it and the invalidity of any social, historical or scientific explanations.

Finally, this book provides a solution to fighting fascism that is quite surprising for a book being sold in major bookstore. It is a very readable book that will give new insight to even the more knowledgeable readers. As a base or expansion one's body of knowledge, this book will well serve its purpose. ●



ARA is on the prowl!

Listen to the bigots howl....

The ARA-Net is a network of ARA-type groups across North America. To date there are more than 80 groups, united by four points of unity:

1. We go where they go. Whenever fascists are organizing or active in public, we're there. We don't believe in ignoring them or staying away from them. Never let the nazis have the streets.
2. Don't rely on the cops or the courts to do our work. This doesn't mean we don't ever go to court. But we must rely on ourselves to protect ourselves and to stop the fascists.
3. Non-sectarian defense of other anti-fascists. In ARA-Net, we have lots of groups and individuals. We don't agree about everything, and we have a right to differ openly. But in this movement an attack on one is an attack on us all. We stand behind each other.
4. ARA-Net intends to do the hard work necessary to build a broad, strong movement against racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, discrimination against the disabled, the oldest, the youngest, and the weakest of our people. We intend to win.

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ARA Winnipeg
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(204) 989-3830

East Coast Against Racism
PO Box 34027
Halifax, NS B3J 3S1

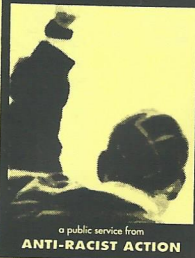
American friends, contact:

ARA Columbus
PO Box 82097
Columbus, OH 43202
(614) 424-9074

ARA Minneapolis
PO Box 80239
Minneapolis, MN
55408
(612) 649-4586

Ask for the ARA closest to you!

HOW TO ID A NEO-NAZI BONEHEAD



Anti-fa resources!!!

Nazis in Suits: Paul Fromm & the Far Right exposes Fromm's behind-the-scenes network of fascist organizers.

Ripping Apart Racist Rock gives crucial background info and inspiring examples of tactics for confronting the white-power music industry.

Set Fire to ON FIRE exposes anti-native hate groups in Ontario

On the Prowl! an intro to ARA speaks for itself.

Blue by Day, White by Night documents concrete examples of kkkops working with neo-Nazis.

Boys in the Hoods introduces the main neo-nazi organizers in the Toronto area. Updated Aug 97.

Zundel and the Deniers of Memory describes the importance of Holocaust Denial and the role of Toronto's nazi "guru", Ernst Zundel.

Fascists, Anti-Fascists & the Media suggests how anti-fascists can use the mainstream media without being used.

How to ID a Neo-Nazi Bonehead gives you the clues.

Some cheap stuff:

Education Package is a heavy-duty, comprehensive study guide on modern fascism, and how our society allows fascism to grow. \$10

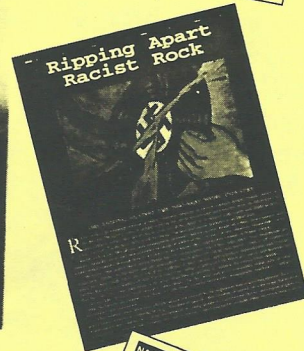
Youth Against Hate is the report from ARA's 1996 conference in Toronto. Includes transcripts of speeches from some of the finest anti-racist and anti-fascist activists and researchers in Canada. \$5

Neo-Nazis & the War Against Women's Reproductive Freedom shows the growing role of fascists in the war against women. \$5

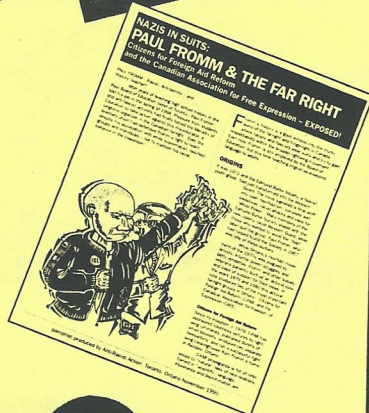
ARA Education Package



Ripping Apart Racist Rock

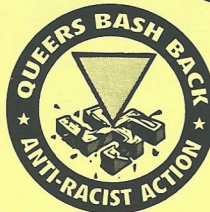
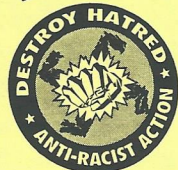


NAZIS IN SUITS: PAUL FROMM & THE FAR RIGHT Chronicler for Foreign Asylum and the Canadian Association for Free Expression - EXPOSED!

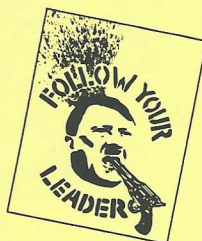


Buttons

Full colour!
\$1



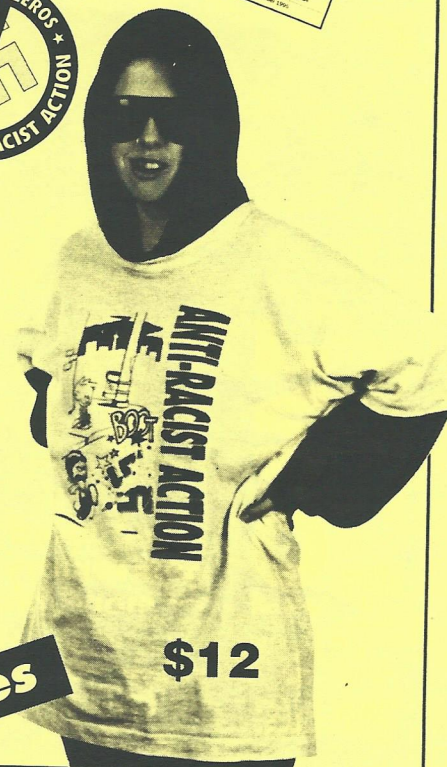
Patches



\$1
each

Tees

\$12



Write to us for a free catalogue!!!

ARA Toronto came together in September 1992 to show the strength of our opposition to fascism, as well as our commitment to a multi-racial, multi-cultural, sexually diverse, liberated and fun society.

ARA will expose, oppose and confront organized racism and the far-right agenda, through education, mass action, and support of broader anti-racist struggles.

Get involved!!! Call or write:
Anti-Racist Action
P.O. Box 291, Stm. B
Toronto, ON M5T 2T2 Canada
email: ara@web.net
<http://www.web.net/~ara>



(416) 631-8835

call
ara

STOP
NAZI
SCUM



ON THE
PROWL

is produced by Anti-Racist Action (Toronto). This is our special 5th anniversary issue. Contact us at the above address for subscriptions or more info: this is the tenth issue of On The Prowl in our 5 years of existence, so while we don't claim to be quarterly we'll add your name to the mailing list for a mere \$10 (send U.S.\$ if that's where you're from) and we'll send you the stuff.